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Woman sues Price Waterhouse for sex bias

David Sellers

Washington Times

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said.

"The pledge serves several purposes," Mrs. Nelson said. "It provides a support system for parents who are pressured by kids who say that no one will come to their parties if there's no liquor.

"And it gives support to teenagers who don't want to be put under pressure to drink and don't have the confidence to say 'no.' This way they can safely go to a home where they won't be tempted."

Other schools, including Woodson, Lake Braddock, Marshall, McLean and Madison high schools, Poe Junior High School and Pope Paul VI, have begun or are considering including the contracts in regular PTA mailings.

Prince George's County Council yesterday, by a one-vote margin, declined to support a General Assembly bill to establish in the county a \$500,000 state-funded pre-release program for convicts — to prepare them to make a better adjustment to society upon completion of their prison terms.

"I want that pre-release program, and I want it badly," Corrections Department Director Samuel F. Saxton said.

"But I want to do it right and we aren't ready."

The council voted 5-4 against the state proposal after Mr. Saxton said he and his staff are engrossed in operating the County Detention Center in Upper Marlboro and planning a new drunken driving reha-

state tried the pre-release, or work-release, program in Prince George's four years ago but dropped it after a convict killed a 9-year-old Clinton boy.

"They're trying to make Prince George's the guinea pig," Mrs. Mills said. "I have a whole file full of CARC [Community Adult Rehabilitation Center] incidents and it's scary. I don't think the time will ever come when this program will work."

But Councilwoman JoAnn T. Bell said convicts fresh out of prison are more dangerous than convicts who are trained and oriented to law-abiding lives outside of prison.

"People should not come out of jail in worse condition than when

Mr. Saxton said rapists, murderers and other felons should not be placed in pre-release programs, which are designed for those who committed non-violent crimes and misdemeanors.

He said a good pre-release program for Prince George's would cost \$900,000.

The county's current work-release program works very well, he said, but the 24-bed facility in Hyattsville is overloaded.

Although he and his staff are unprepared for handling a pre-release program, Maryland's General Assembly probably will approve legislation to establish it in Prince George's anyway, Mr. Saxton predicted.

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MARCH 21 1984

Woman sues Price Waterhouse for sex bias

By David Sellers
WASHINGTON TIMES STAFF

A former management consultant at a major accounting firm filed a complaint yesterday in D.C. Superior Court charging the firm with sex discrimination and asking for \$6.25 million in damages.

In her lawsuit, Ann B. Hopkins, of Cathedral Avenue NW, claimed Price Waterhouse failed to promote her to partner and then fired her because she is a female. Ms. Hopkins worked for the prominent accounting firm for more than five years before being fired two months ago.

An official in Price Waterhouse's Government Services Office in Washington said yesterday they have been instructed not to discuss personnel issues over the phone.

Ulric R. Sullivan, assistant general counsel at the firm's New York headquarters, said he was aware of the Hopkins dispute, but could not discuss the complaint or promotion procedures.

The promotion practices of professional businesses — such as law and accounting firms — recently have received national attention as a result of a case before the Supreme Court involving a female associate with an Atlanta law firm who contended she was not made a partner because she is a woman. The court has heard oral arguments in the case, but has not yet handed down a ruling.

Price Waterhouse has fewer than five female partners nationally, and none in D.C., Douglas B. Huron, Ms. Hopkins' lawyer, said in yesterday's complaint. Of approximately 100

partners throughout the country in the firm's government services division, only one is a woman, Mr. Huron claimed.

After being hired by Price Waterhouse in August 1978, Ms. Hopkins brought in several million dollars' worth of new business for the firm, the complaint said. Ms. Hopkins continuously received favorable evaluations, the complaint said, and performed assignments customarily given to partners, although she was only a senior manager.

Candidates for partnership with the firm are nominated by their local office and selected following consultation within the firm, Mr. Huron said in the complaint. Ms. Hopkins was first nominated in fall 1982 and found out in March 1983 that she had not been selected. De-

spite the continuing high quality of her performance, according to the lawsuit, the firm did not renominate her for partnership in fall 1983.

Ms. Hopkins contended that she was informed at that time that it was unlikely she would ever become a partner with the firm and should consider looking for another job. Three men became partners in the local office in August 1983, the complaint said.

Later the same month, Ms. Hopkins filed charges against Price Waterhouse with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, alleging she was a victim of sex discrimination. As a result of the complaint, Ms. Hopkins claimed she was subjected to "retaliation and harassment" by firm officials, culminating in her termination Jan. 17, 1984.

Citizens' board eyed for Montgomery cable

BY A WASHINGTON TIMES STAFF WRITER

Montgomery County Council President Esther Gelman yesterday proposed creating a citizens' board to control the content of \$25

the fray, above the division between the executive and the council," Mrs. Gelman said. "They won't be politicians. They're there to represent their organizations, the public. This isn't them, the coun-

mission's recommended incorporation process was vague enough to leave the non-profit board open to "old style political packing," which could taint community programming financed by

access programming by a non-profit board. She proposed the citizens commission to advise the county on the content of the shows, however, in an effort to exert pressure on the Glitchrist to speed plan-